Don't Buy Farah, Don't Buy Injus...

by Henry Tamarin
Modern Times Staff

"You're not buying a pair of pants. You're buying injustice."

These words rang out over the 300 brave souls who gathered on the New Haven Green on a cold, rainy Saturday, November 11. Tony Sanchez, a striking worker from the Farah pants factory in San Antonio, Texas, was speaking to the rally. People from all over Connecticut had come to pledge their support for a statewide campaign to get consumers to stop buying and stores to stop selling Farah pants.

"Boycott! Boycott!" Marchers were chanting as they formed a long line stretching several blocks. They moved through Saturday shoppers to Kennedy's Macy's and Malley's, because they all carry Farah slacks.

March Grows

Led by Nick Aiello of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Union and Vincent Sirabella, President of New Haven's Central Labor Council, the line ofmarchers gathered supporters from among the shoppers as it moved through downtown New Haven.

Speakers like State Senator Anthony Ciarlone; John Driscoll, President of the Connecticut State Labor Council; State Representative Al Webber; and Vincent Mauro, President of New Ha... of Aldermen (representing Mayor ... all spoke in support of the boycott. ... talked about the unfair treatment of the 300 struggling strikers at Farah's 7 factories in Texas and New Mexico. They talked about the suffering of strikers, most of whom are Mexican-American women. The strike began last May 3. But the strikers' own leaflet said it best:

"We have been on strike for weeks-battling arrests for peaceful picketing, armed Farah guards, police dogs, wholesale discharges. The company is determined to break our strike, to stop us from having a union of our own choice. The only way we will win is if Americans help us by refusing to buy Farah pants."

Also present to show their support were presidents from Labor Councils throughout Connecticut, including those from Bridgeport, Hartford, Middletown and Waterbury. Among local union representatives on the speakers' platform were Clint Fortune of Local 93, United Rubber Workers, and John Thompson of the Bus Drivers' Union. Telegrams of support were read from Connecticut's Senators Abe Ribicoff and Lowell Weicker.

One marcher commented, "After what happened on election day, it's good to see working people supporting each other. We're going to need that now more than ever."

Leading the march following Saturday's rally on the Green to support Farah strikers are, left to right, Nick Aiello, Business Agent of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, Tony Sanchez, a striker from Farah in El Paso, Texas, Robert Wiseman of the ACW, an unidentified youth, and Vincent Sirabella, President of the New Haven Central Labor Council. The lively line of march wended its way through downtown shoppers urging them to boycott Farah products.(M-T photo by Jim Gelvin)

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Vol.III No. 13 — New Haven — November 15–30, 1972

CITY + BIG BUSINESS = REDEVELOPMENT

by Harris Stone

What is Redevelopment up to now? What can New Haveners expect to happen to their neighborhoods and jobs and taxes? The Agency tells one side of the story in the Annual Report left on New Haven doorsteps a couple of weeks ago. Here's the other side— told by a New Haven architect who once worked for the Agency and who has agreed to review the latest Annual Report for Modern Times.

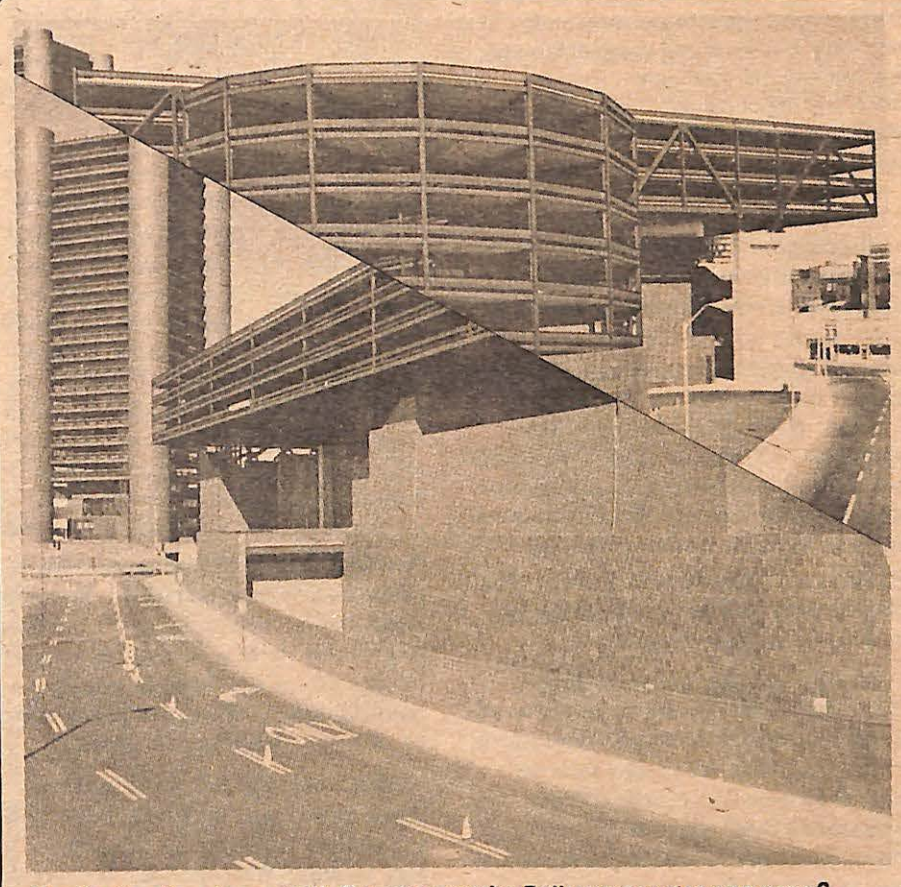
Early November is a time when children play with fallen leaves and the Redevelopment Agency plays with the working people of New Haven. It's election time and therefore the time that the Agency prints and delivers to each and every New Haven household (at our expense) the Annual Report of the New Haven Redevelopment Agency.

"It's the time when you, the taxpayer, get a look at what you've been paying for all year," says Bill Donohue, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Agency, in a section of the Report titled, "The View from the Director's Office." Bill says there is a lot he wants to tell us, "but at the same time," he points out, "there is only room for so much."

We learn that the "Fair Haven Plan" will be implemented. It calls for the acquisition of land "for the creation of small housing development sites (number unspecified)... Another top priority is the acquisition of land of (sic) the new Quinnipiac River Bridge on Grand Ave." (For some reason the Report is spiced throughout with oddly chosen prepositions. Perhaps part of the Annual Report game is to increase the number of grammatical blunders from year to year until the Report makes as little sense as the actions of the Redevelopment Agency.)

Although the new bridge will displace many residents and small businesses, that have been a part of the Fair Haven scene for generations, the fact that it is called a "top priority" is consistent with the rest of the Report. Much of the limited space of the Report is devoted to describing- both in words and pictures - the ways in which New Haven's Redevelop-

See REDEVELOPMENT p.2



Hardly the place for a stroll. For more on the Coliseum see story on page 6. (Photos from the 1972 Annual Report of the New Haven Redevelopment Agency.)

WHAT'S INSIDE

Hospital Boss's Sweet Talk p.3

Election Day Turnout pp.4, 5

...lopment ...rass Pat ...elves On Back

Continued from page 1

ment Agency is trying to make Detroit's automobile manufacturers happy.

For example, at one point Bill Donohue says, "to me, one subject which no one can say too much about is structured parking...I have a photograph on my desk which shows in a dramatic way exactly what I'm talking about. It's reprinted somewhere in these pages and it's worth looking at." (I think Bill might have given some sort of hint here—like "on page 12"—but perhaps he didn't want to go too far out on a limb on such a touchy issue as photograph locations.) True to his word, Bill devotes over two pages of the Report to the subject of structured parking.

The few paragraphs devoted to mass transit conclude with the peculiar threat that "if bus service continues to deteriorate...the city will be forced to review its highway and parking needs" —That is, if the owner of the bus company punishes us by depriving us of bus service, the city in turn will punish us by tearing down more homes and small businesses to build more highways and parking garages. (Heads, they win. Tails, we lose.)

The Report admits that parking "eats up the land. It eats up possible tax revenue from lost development, and it eats up jobs..." But with a logic which utterly escapes me the Report concludes that what's needed is not mass transit, but structured parking.

Just before Bill launched into the one subject which no one can say too much about, he mentioned in passing that he was "more than a little pleased with the streamlining we have been able to accomplish in the Agency this year." It turns out that six secretaries now do the work that used to be done by thirteen secretaries. Director Bill calls this "streamlining." I call it "speed up."

Bill now moves on to the subject of housing. After vaguely mentioning that the Agency has "moved forward in elderly housing, in downtown development, in rehabilitation of older houses," he gets down to brass tacks. "One of my favorite memories this past year is of the anniversary party the elderly residents of Ruppolo Manor gave for themselves." So much for housing.

A few words are devoted to the issue of relocation. "The Family Relocation Office...has relocated almost 9,000 families...since the office was opened in 1956." This is an astounding figure. Al Mermin, a former Director of the Relocation Office, explained in one of his reports that approximately one third of the people displaced by the Urban Renewal and Highway Construction Programs are handled by the Family Relocation Office. This means that either 27,000 families have been displaced since 1956, or the former Director didn't know what he was talking about, or - what's most likely - this is an instance of the Annual Report

See REDEVELOPMENT, page 6

Teachers' Center Plans Program

by Barbara O'Connell
Teacher Center Board

The Teacher Center, located at 425 College Street (old Exit Coffeehouse) is now beginning its second year of operation. Last year we operated on a grant from the Hazen Foundation. The foundation was so impressed with the center's functioning that it just awarded a $20,000 grant for the upcoming year. The grant will be followed up for the next two years. Also, the New World Foundation of New York will probably grant us another $10,000-$15,000 on November 13.

We have a policy advisory committee and a full-time director, Corky Levin. Ms. Levin recently visited the British Infant Schools in England. The center is primarily a drop-in center for both city and suburban teachers. Beginning Wednesday, November 8, we will have a wine and cheese hour from 4-6 p.m. This will continue every Wednesday. Films from the British Broadcasting System will be shown each week.

This summer a three-week workshop for teachers working with young children was given through a grant of $2,400 from the New World Foundation. Thirty urban and suburban teachers took part. The workshops focused on math manipulative materials, architecture in relation to the classroom, and movement and dance. The workshop was such a success that there will be follow-up workshops throughout the year.

Workshops

Many workshops are scheduled throughout November and December.

1. Coping in the Classroom. Harry Klein, School Psychiatrist. Wednesdays, Nov. 1, 8, 15, 29 and Dec. 6 at 7:30 p.m. Klein will lead a series of discussions on the influences that affect what happens in the classroom.

2. Cultivating Sensitivity in the Classroom. Thursdays, Oct. 31 and Nov. 7 at 7:30 p.m. Sherry Anspack, a teacher at Winchester School and staff member of the New Haven Human Relations Council will lead a workshop dealing with behavior and interpersonal relationships in the classroom. This will involve role-playing, sociometric and psychodramatic exercies.

3. Words in Color. Thursdays, Nov. 9 and 16 at 7:30 p.m. Ruth Emerson reading teacher at High School in the Community, has been working with an interested group of teachers in an approach to reading. This method was designed by Dr. Caleb Tattegno.

4. Making Musical Instruments. Tuesday, Nov. 14, at 7:30 p.m. Bonnie Mason and Lisa Soleau will help make all of the instruments. Call if you are planing to come: 776-5987.

5. Games. Monday, Nov. 20 at 7:30.

6. Breakthrough to Literacy. Monday Nov. 20 and Tuesday, Nov. 28, 3:00-5:00 p.m. Corky Levin, Teacher Center Coordinator will discuss introducing children to written language, composing original sentences, writing your own book, the place of spelling in learning to read and write, and keeping records.

7. Sex Roles. Tuesday, Nov. 14 at 4:00 p.m.

8. Block Building, Workshop II. Thursday, Nov. 30 at 7:30 p.m. Barbara Fussiner will work on how block construction can be linked to the rest of the activities in your room, how you can record what happened, and what the problems are.

9. Teacher Share-In. Monday, Dec. 4, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Teacher Share-In with Joan Haines, SCSC faculty, will bring her class "Living and Learning with Young Children" to share their projects and ideas.

10. Making the Classroom Environment Work for You and Your Children.

a) Wed., Nov. 29, 7:30 p.m., using color and texture effectively in your classroom.

b) Wed., Dec. 6, 7:30 p.m., *let's build a place for learning.*

c) *Wed., Dec. 13, 7:30 p.m. exploring and criticizing the space you teach in.*

d) Sat., Dec. 2, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. exploring different materials.

e) Sat., Dec. 9, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. redesigning your classroom.

f) Sat., Dec. 16, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. making something for your room.

The Edward Street School Council met at the Teacher Center November 13 to plan an after school program at their school. (M-T photo by Nick Heyer)

Drugs In Schools? And How!!

by Larry Angeletti
Student at Wilbur Cross High School

What's happening in New Haven's High Schools? Why are there riots and race fights? What's changed? This article is the first in a series by High School students trying to answer those questions.

Recently WNHC conducted a radio interview of high school department heads. These school officials said there were no drugs in their schools - I'm a student at Cross. I just couldn't believe my ears.

I conducted a survey of drug use among seniors and sophomores at Wilbur Cross - we know different.

All the students interviewed say there is a large flow of drugs at Cross. One senior said "yes I would say drugs are pretty big here and kids aren't naive to it either." I asked what kinds of drugs were going around Cross. Here are some answers: "a lot of stuff, you name it;" "**grass and speed are the biggest sellers**".

Most of the students admitted that drugs are very easy to get in school. "It's very easy to buy or sell drugs at Cross, just ask anyone you know - they're either buying or selling. "It's very easy to buy stuff and no one's afraid to get caught."

No Drug Programs

If drugs are going around Cross then there should be drug programs for the students, but all the students admitted that "there's none that I've heard of" except "some teachers get former drug addicts to speak to their classes, but it's a drag." A lot of kids felt that "the school doesn't seem to think a drug problem exists". Students are walking into their classrooms stoned and the teachers don't know it. A few years ago some students got caught smoking grass. The parents were told and yet no programs were set up to fight drug use.

Why do so many kids take drugs? That's the hardest question. In the words of one senior: "I don't know why I took drugs -- but when my friends were on drugs they were really happy. When they were stoned there was nothing to worry about. I was pretty uptight, never talked to anyone, but after I started on drugs I could talk to people. Before people thought I was a really quiet person and they could overlook me. When I was taking drugs I was really into school and I was a lot happier. I really felt I was going to get ahead and do a lot of stuff. Now that I quit I don't feel that way anymore. When you take drugs you see things like you want to see them and they're easier to handle that way. But when you come down it's not too cool. Everything's worse then when you first got stoned and you really can't handle it because sometimes you are physically ill."

Cross Like Prison

Why do people take drugs? To another student "drugs are a way you can get away from things and not have to worry about what's going on. There are a lot of problems kids have and adults refuse to see them, so we have to handle them ourselves. For example, **going to Cross we have all of society's problems pushed into one building.** Maybe only once in your lifetime you will see someone get jumped, but in the course of four years of high school, I've seen at least six people jumped and I was one of them.

Nowhere else but in high school and in prison do you have no rights. You need a pass and permission to use the bathroom, to go to the nurse if you're sick, to pass out leaflets, or sell things or put up political posters. You're in prison and a lot of people take drugs in prison.

Did those High School Department Heads interviewed on WNHC know what any student knows about drugs in the high schools? Were they just looking the other way? Do they want to hush-up the truth about drugs? Your guess is as good as mine.

Community Notes

NEW CLASSES AT YWCA

The Center for Creative Leisure of the New Haven YWCA is beginning short-term classes in Gourmet Cooking, Batiking and Sewing. Gourmet Cooking will meet Tuesday evening, 7:30-9:30 pm for a 6 week world tour of various cuisines and special techniques involved in the preparation of characteristic foods. Beginning with French crepes, the class will select countries for future exploration.

Batik and Sewing classes will be offered on Thursdays, 7:30-9:30 pm for 5 and 6 weeks respectively. Designs on fabric using wax and dye and a little imagination can produce conversation pieces for a wall, scarfs, fabric for dresses and many other items. The Sewing class is for beginners or those who want a refresher.

The classes range in price from $10-$16. For further information call the New Haven YWCA, 865-5171.

Request to be on the mailing list for the YWCA brochure for the Winter Term which begins January 16.

At The Hospital

Watch Out For Boss's Sweet Talk

Editors Note: The following article is taken from a leaflet by the Concerned Hospital Workers. The Dietary Department at Yale-New Haven Hospital is in the process of organizing its workers to get Local 1199 as their bargaining agent. We at **Modern Times** *feel that this article is of particular interest to all those workers who are considering organizing a similar unionization drive.*

Dietary workers at Yale-New Haven Hospital show enthusiastic support for the union drive as they pose for Modern Times photographer Nick Heyer.

Whenever we begin talking about the union, there's this creature that appears out of the Hospital woodwork. It never fails. This creature LOOKS JUST LIKE YOUR BOSS but TALKS JUST LIKE YOUR FRIEND. "There's been a lack of understanding," she says. That's not true – we understood her orders and commands perfectly well. "Let's sit down and we can work these problems out," she says. That's funny - they never even wanted to hear about it before. "We're one big family," she says. Did she ever hear about the Generation Gap?

Beware of this creature -- this boss that suddenly talks like your friend. He or she is nothing but a wolf in sheep's clothing. All this sweet talk is their latest trick to try to divide us, turn us around, and try to keep us from building the only kind of organization that can really protect our jobs and represent our interests. Make no mistake -- they'll treat us as nice as a chocolate cream cake if they think that's the best way to beat the union.

Union: Heavy Label

All of a sudden the hospital bosses will become very concerned about us. They will be worried to death about how much money we'll have to pay for union dues. Now mind you -- they don't worry about how we pay our rent, or for our groceries or our clothing. They couldn't care less about our children, about babysitters or about day care. At least they could worry about our clinic visits, doctor bills and prescriptions -- but of course they don't. On the other hand, they are definitely very worried about union dues. Why? They're not worried about the other kinds of dues we pay -- church donations, lodge dues or taxes. So what's their big concern about union dues? Here's the secret -- it's the *UNION*, not the union dues, which the bosses are worried about.

Union Will Help

Next thing the bosses will say is they want to protect us from an "outside union." *What outside union? The union* is made up of hospital workers, here and elsewhere. And besides -- who the heck are the bosses to protect anybody from anything? They certainly don't protect us from backbreaking work, from being ordered around like soldiers, or from getting injured on the job. They're not very eager to protect our pay -- look how often they mess up your paycheck or "forget" to give a raise they owe you. And what protection do they give our jobs? They'll tell you themselves, "Like it or leave," and that amounts to no protection at all. The truth of the matter is that it's THEM -- the Hospital -- we need protection FROM. And the Hospital is so powerful that there's no way we can protect ourselves from them completely on our own. That's why we need the help of the 90,000 other hospital workers who make up Local 1199, because they have the experience and resources to help us protect ourselves.

One last thing. The wolf in sheep's clothing can take the clothing off any time he feels like it. In other words, the same boss who tries to sweet-talk you today might try to threaten you tomorrow. But it just so happens that the supervisor who tries to threaten you about joining the union is breaking the law. You should know what the law is so you can tell him about it. Remember -- we have a legal right to organize a union, and THE BOSSES HAVE NO LEGAL RIGHT TO INTERFERE. For everybody's information, we've reprinted a union leaflet listing all the things a supervisor cannot legally do.

Labor Notes

POSSIBLE BUS STRIKE

The Amalgamated Transit Union has announced that there will be a bus drivers' strike on November 25 if no settlement has been reached in the current crisis. According to Union Business Agent John Thompson, the union has given sufficient strike notice and will not longer wait for the bus Company and the State to resolve the problem.

A decision on whether to continue the current injunction against the Company is due November 21. If the Company is not instructed to keep the buses running, there will be a shutdown. If they are forced to continue service, the drivers will strike.

Thompson believers there is little hope of a resolution on the State level. Most likely the new Republican majority in the Legislature will stand behind Meskill's decision to consider this a problem of the cities--not of the State.

At this rate we can only wonder if the Governor eventually plans to cut off all public services in the State. His recent actions in regard to welfare and bus services seem to point in that direction.

OIL AND TAXES

In 1971 the 18 largest oil companies in the nation earned over $10 billion. Of that tremendous sum, they paid only 6.7 percent of their net income in federal income taxes. Many of these companies pay additional sums in foreign and local taxes, but few pay proportionally in taxes as much as the American citizen who earns $15,000 a year.

Herewith from "U.S. Oil Week" some surprising figures on what major oil companies paid Uncle Sam in 1971:

	TAX	*PERCENT*
Standard (New Jersey)	$211,542,000	7.7
Texaco	30,000,000	2.3
Gulf	31,062,000	2.3
Mobil	85,000,000	7.4
Standard (California)	14,000,000	1.6
Standard (Indiana)	63,462,000	14.5
Shell	43,738,000	14.9
Arco	11,115,000	3.8
Phillips	32,734,000	15.0
Sun	41,081,000	17.4
Union (California)	11,750	7.9
Amerada Hess	22,552,000	9.3
Getty	31,585,000	15.1
Conoco	6,240,000	2.1
Cities Service	9,934,000	8.4
Marathon	14,000	6.1
Standard (Ohio)	1,245,000	2.0
Ashland	23,954,000	46.3

What percent do you pay?

State Naps As Accidents Happen

by Dean Johnson
Occupational Health and Safety Project

Before the creation of the Federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration, state agencies had the sole responsibility for the safety of the nation's workers. The Federal administration was set *up under pressure from labor forces which recognized that the state agencies were doing a very poor job. However, the United States Labor Department is attempting by administrative order to turn back enforcement to the states without* requiring that the state standards be as strict as the Federal ones. The following article about the laxity of Connecticut's enforcement procedures shows that sole state responsibility for occupational health might be a disaster for Labor.

Connecticut's occupational health and safety agencies are said to be among the best in the nation. Though this may be true, this writer found little to praise.

The responsibility for the safety and health of Connecticut workers is shared by two groups: occupational safety is controlled by the Factory Inspection Division (FID) of the Labor Department, while health is the province of the Industrial Hygiene (IH) section of the Health Department.

The Labor Department employs 42 full-time inspectors. Though several inspectors are concerned only with the inspection of boilers and elevators, this staff is, in theory at least, sufficient to allow an annual inspection of every workplace in Connecticut.

Workers in the state seem to have a different perspective on the inspectors' schedules. Many claim never to have seen an inspector in their 10 to 20 years on the job. Others, especially those in the more hazardous jobs, see inspectors quite frequently. As one worker put it to me, "Yeah, we see the inspector. . . right after an accident."

For a state occupational safety agency, FID has remarkable enforcement powers. It can bring suit against an employer for violations which its inspectors find. Suits can result in criminal penalties of $100-$500 and up to 1 year in jail.

However, like agencies in other states, FID is excessively frugal in the use of these powers. According to Leo F. Alix, head of FID for nearly 20 years, there have been only two convictions for violations of occupational safety laws; both resulted in minimum fines of $100. Remarkable, considering that in that time FID inspectors must have conducted over a quarter of a million inspections.

Safety is Singular

For all of its shortcomings, FID is by far the best of the two state agencies. *The implicit philosophy of the Industrial Hygiene section of the health department is one of "rugged individualism". As the "Creed" on the office wall of IH head Joseph Stapor says "We believe that it is the unalterable responsibility of each individual to keep out of harm's way".* One can only wonder how a worker who is forced to breathe air laden with acid fumes, metal dust or oil mist or a roofer who is required by the state to use a chemical which can cause skin cancer is supposed to "keep out of harm's way."

There is some confusion about the agency's enforcement powers, at least on the part of the agency. Dr. Stapor told this writer that the enforcement powers of IH were similar to those if FID. An act of the state legislature is required to give an agency such powers. There has been no such act for IH. Dr. Stapor had previously told another interviewer that IH's enforcement powers extended only as far as other agencies of the health department. This would mean that the agency had the power to petition the Health Commissioner to shut down any establishment in which inspectors had discovered violations.

At any rate, the debate over IH's enforcement powers is academic. Apparently, IH has failed to exercise its powers even once in 22 years of existence. A remarkable record for any agency.

No $ In Safety

In fact, IH doesn't even regard itself as an enforcement agency. It sees its function as one of "consultation," educating management to the notion that good health practices pay off. Historically, this sort of approach has been a monumental failure. Often good health practices don't pay off financially. If a worker is crippled or killed, management

See STATE INSPECTORS, page 8

Editorial

Picking Up The Pieces

The McGovern candidacy has proven to be a disaster. Not only has it resulted in a landslide for Nixon, but also a Connecticut State Assembly and Senate packed with Meskill's budget slashing cronies. Who can stop thegovernor's assaults on education, health, welfare and other public services?

Tough times are ahead. But things will get a lot tougher if we draw the wrong lessons from the Nov. 7 th defeat. The worst thing we could do is decide that Americans favor the policies and politics of Nixon and that all hope of basic changes in American society is gone.

It would be foolish to see the election results as a simple rejection of McGovern's "radicalism" in favor of Nixon's conservatism. Think back to the primaries. Again and again the candidates of the center were voted down. The big winners were the anti-establishment candidates, George McGovern and George Wallace. Americans were plainly showing their frustration and anger with the way things were going and their desires for change.

What happened? It seems McGovern blew it. On paper his proposals were far better than Nixon's and much closer to the wishes and needs of the discontented American majority. But at the Democratic Convention Americans got the image that McGovern's real concerns were with the problems of youth, blacks, Chicanos and women, not with other ethnic groups and not with labor.

And after watching his hesitations and switches on Eagleton and welfare reform, people began to see McGovern as another suburban liberal politician whose grand proposals for the benefit of working people might disappear after another change of heart. They got the feeling that if McGovern actually made a lot of changes to help minorities and the very poor it would be at the expense of the mass of people who are just scraping by themselves.

Not all of this image was deserved. Some of it came from distorted press and TV coverage. Some of it came from our own fears and prejudices. But for most people the image was strong enough to make even Nixon look superior in comparison.

Well, where do we go from here? Not back to the middle of the road. There's no future there. We've got to start building new roads that lead in new directions.

We've got to center our political efforts on fighting the raw deal given to the working people of this country. Somehow we've got to get whites and blacks and other minorities to put aside their fears and hates and join together in this kind of struggle. The candidates we run will have to have a gut feeling for the needs of working people, men and women, who will speak for them and be responsible to them.

Only then can we hope to disperse the gloom and despair that surrounds us.

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MODERN TIMES is published by the American Independent Movement (AIM) as its political organ. Work on MODERN TIMES is done by volunteers, both members and non-members of AIM. The political views of AIM are given in the editorial. We encourage contributions of the New Haven community in the form of articles and letters.

MODERN TIMES is a paper to tell the story of and by the people of New Haven. We don't get that kind of news in commercial papers run for profit. There is no place else where the work and play of people who aren't rich is considered important enough to write about. There is no place else in New Haven where the problems of working women and men are told by them instead of by their bosses. There is no place else where hunger, bad housing and education, lack of health care and police harassment that people live with is told by them.

We live in the richest country in the world. But only a few people get to use most of this wealth for themselves. We must all work together to claim the wealth we all helped to create. Then there would be no need to strike for a few more crumbs, waste our resources and labor on rockets and bombs, or waste the lives of our young men in wars like Vietnam. We would produce what we need—not what is profitable.

The American Independent Movement has been working since 1966 to get people together against the rich, powerful few who run New Haven and the whole country. We want everyone to have good housing, good education, child care centers, recreation areas, decent health care and decent jobs.

STAFF: David Adams, Gary Benenson, Matt Borenstein, Ed Breuler, Jerry Cohen, Ellen Comisso, Vittorio Comisso, Lillian Dimow, Joelle Dominski, Art Fleischner, Paul Gill, Sam Goodwin, Stanley Heller, Liz Henderson, Nick Heyer, Eileen Hoffman, Peter Jackson, Lynne Karsten, Karl Lechow, Alice Mick, Ray Milici, Patti Miller, Laurie Nussdorfer, Jim Jordan, Renee Poirier, Peter O'Connell, Naomi Resnick, Ruth Resnick, Florrie Ricciuti, Bob Sherry, Henry Tamarin, Ross Thompson, Sergio Verillo, Rick Wolff, Karen Wolff

Some Win–Some Lose

Democrat Tony Ciarlone celebrates his victory with Louise Delauro and Karen Wolff of the 8th Ward. The only Democrat to lose in New Haven -Teresa Taneszio- had lots of company statewide as Republicans took control of the state legislature. (M-T photos by Nick Heyer)

Write On

Pay Up, Daddy

To the Editor:

Enclosed is an example of how the Welfare Department attempts to collect support for AFDC from their fathers. My son Sean would have been adopted October 13 but my first husband is contesting it. Since he resides out of state and makes in excess of $25,000 yearly he feels he can do as he chooses. Never once has he contributed anything to his son's support and despite repeated trips to the Bureau of Support nothing has every been done by state law enforcement officials or the Welfare Department.

On October 27 John Hughes will be in Connecticut upsetting adoption proceedings. Will anyone arrest him for non-support and desertion? No. How many cases are there like this?

I understand that they won't bother a father for support if he lived in New Haven. Yet, I as the child's mother am the scapegoat. I am the one told to get a job, humiliated and treated like a second class citizen by the Welfare Department and now, under the Flat Grant I'm pushed towards death by cold and hunger. Penn Central and Lockheed and Insurance Companies get welfare. Deserting fathers get off free. Where, America, is your justice?

Yours in Bread and Justice,
Patricia Hughes Wolf

Pick Your Poison

To the Editors:

In the last issue of your paper, Dean Johnson's article on the use of pitch on roofs dealt only with the roofers who actually use the pitch. He neglected to deal with all the other building trades workers who are affected by the fumes. The fumes are all over the place, rising from the big kettles which contain the pitch. By the end of the day, everybody feels the effect of the pitch used for roofing. It hurts your breathing. It stings your eyes. You're always wiping the black gunk out of your nostrils.

Yours sincerely,
Joe Tinker, New Haven

Harris No Better

Dear Editor:

On your last front page you pictured so-called parent and community leaders aroused over the appointment of Barbarito as N.H. School Superintendent. The caption claimed Barbarito's appointment was "political" while the appointment of George Harris to the post would be following the will of the community.

That's a lot of bunk. Those so-called leaders represent no real community feeling. They're all local politicians themselves.

Who is George Harris anyway? What has he ever done for local education? Isn't it the case here that one group of people want Barbarito in so they can get appointments in the school system and another group wants Harris so they can get the favors?

I think Modern Times shouldn't be getting involved in this controversy. Whoever wins, we taxpayers lose.

Name withheld on request
New Haven

On Judaism

Dear Editor
Modern Times

The Jewish people have survived Pharoah, Babylon, Assyria, Greece and Rome, the Crusades, the Inquisition, German genocide, Russian pogrom, Soviet socialism, Arab annihilation and America's assimilation. In this same period our people have contributed Moses, Jesus, Paul, Karl Marx, Sigmund Freud, Albert Einstein and other Nobel prize winners by the score. Neither the bloody murder of school children or unarmed athletes nor the flea bites of our own sad, self-hating alienated, in letters to publications such as Modern Times will destroy the Israeli state or the Jewish folk.

Oscar Arbitman
New Haven

Poorest Americans Didn't Vote

by Rick Wolff
Modern Times Staff

Almost half of all Americans who were eligible to vote on November 7 did not go to the polls. Of those who were registered, millions cast no ballot. Millions more were not even registered. All in all, across the United States we had the lowest voter turnout since the election of 1948. Only half (55% to be exact) the people elected the President and Congress of all the people. Who did not vote? Why not?

The people who make up that non-voting half are among the poorer Americans. They include millions of the elderly and the low-paid working poor who have to keep moving to find work and to escape the rent collectors. They include millions of Americans who could not get time off from work to vote and were just too tired to bother to vote. They often thought to themselves, "What's the use, what difference can it make?"

Far Out Farmers

Then there are the people who work on the farms or in rural areas where it is a time and money costing chore to go long distances to vote. There are millions of people who are unemployed or on welfare who often think they have lost the right to vote (they have not) or who are afraid to register to vote because they fear somehow getting into trouble with the authorities as a result. Millions of Americans are very, very sure that despite the privacy of the voting machine, the politicians have ways of knowing exactly who voted for whom.

One thing all these people have in common is their standard of living. There are very few among them who are rich. Most are poor, even though most work hard for the little they can get and have worked hard all of their lives. Their voices do not count because they do not vote. That helps the rich, who do vote, to have a much greater influence than their small numbers should allow. And the result is more government which serves the rich. And the result of that is more of the non-rich throwing up their hands in frustration saying, "What's the use? No matter how we vote, it seems to make little difference."

The other tie that binds all the non-voters is the hard fact that they know that they are not the types of people who tell the politicians what to do. No, they know that the politicians can and will hurt them whenever it is profitable for them. They know that they are on the other side of the politicians from the rich companies and people who control the men who control the Democratic and Republican parties.

Ballot Blues

Being human beings, they don't like to be at the bottom of the heap. They don't like to face the sad facts of their situation. So they deal with the problem by not going to vote, by not caring about the election or politics, or by being busy with other things.

Too bad. Not facing the realities is never a way of making them better. By not caring about politics and elections, the 45% of eligible Americans who do not vote, are actually helping to keep alive the very policies and practices they most dislike and fear. By not voting to defeat Nixon, they are indirectly helping him to win. And Nixon is committed to high unemployment, to being tough on welfare, to hold back government spending on education or the elderly or housing in order to fight a war or "balance the budget." These policies will hurt most just those millions of Americans who did not use their chance to dump Nixon.

Any future for politics in America which will serve the interests of the working class of people (the majority) will depend heavily on moving those 45% into active political life. Together with those working people who are already involved-mainly in the Democratic Party-the 45% can provide the mass popular support for the basic changes in American society that are needed if our resources are ever to be devoted to people's needs instead of large corporations' profits.

Democratic Party Has Splitting Headaches

by Lynne Karsten and Nina Adams
Modern Times Staff

Although the overall city vote in this election was Democratic as it has been traditionally, the vote was much closer than usual and the city was split. Inner-city wards with black and liberal constituents voted solidly Democratic, apparently by pulling the party lever. Westville and the eastern wards of Morris Cove, Fair Haven Heights, and part of Fair Haven voted for Nixon, apparently by pulling the Republican lever.

It used to be said in the Eastern side of the city that the Republican lever would deliver an electric shock. But voters who in the past would have voted Democratic pulled the Republican lever this time to vote for Nixon. As a result the Democrats further down the ballot were defeated. Theresa Teneszio lost the State Assembly seat in that area to the only Republican winner in the city, James Canali. Teneszio ran 230 votes ahead of McGovern in her home ward, but it was not enough to offset the Republican voting in the other wards of her district.

Other Democratic candidates were hit by the Republican lever pulling. Tony Ciarlone, running for State Senate, lost ground in the Eastern wards. But his district also includes Wooster Square and the Hill, where he picked up enough votes to offset the other losses. Joe Lieberman, whose Senatorial District includes most of the reform and black wards, won without any difficulty.

Split for Giaimo

The one exception in the picture was Bob Giaimo. From the beginning Giaimo dissociated himself from the McGovern Democratic ticket. He ran a separate office and put up billboards which did not mention the word "Democratic" and called him "Everyone's Congressman."

In certain wards, particularly the 15th, there were stories that Democratic regulars forsook their party and told people how to pull the Republican lever and split for Giaimo. Also, Giaimo is well known, with seven terms in the House of Representatives behind him.

As a result, thousands of people split their ballots and pulled the Republican lever and then split for Giaimo. Giaimo ran 9,000 votes ahead of McGovern in the city, enabling him to win the Third Congressional District, and return to the House.

Giaimo will now be a political person to watch. Always a conservative, he made an election night statement that rejected both the person and philosophy of George McGovern and the "new" Democratic coalitions. Instead he proposed a "return to the mainstream", a phrase used the same night by George Wallace. The Democratic Party needs leadership to make its principles comfortable for the American people, its platform feasible. It does not need the swing back to the right which Robert Giaimo promises.

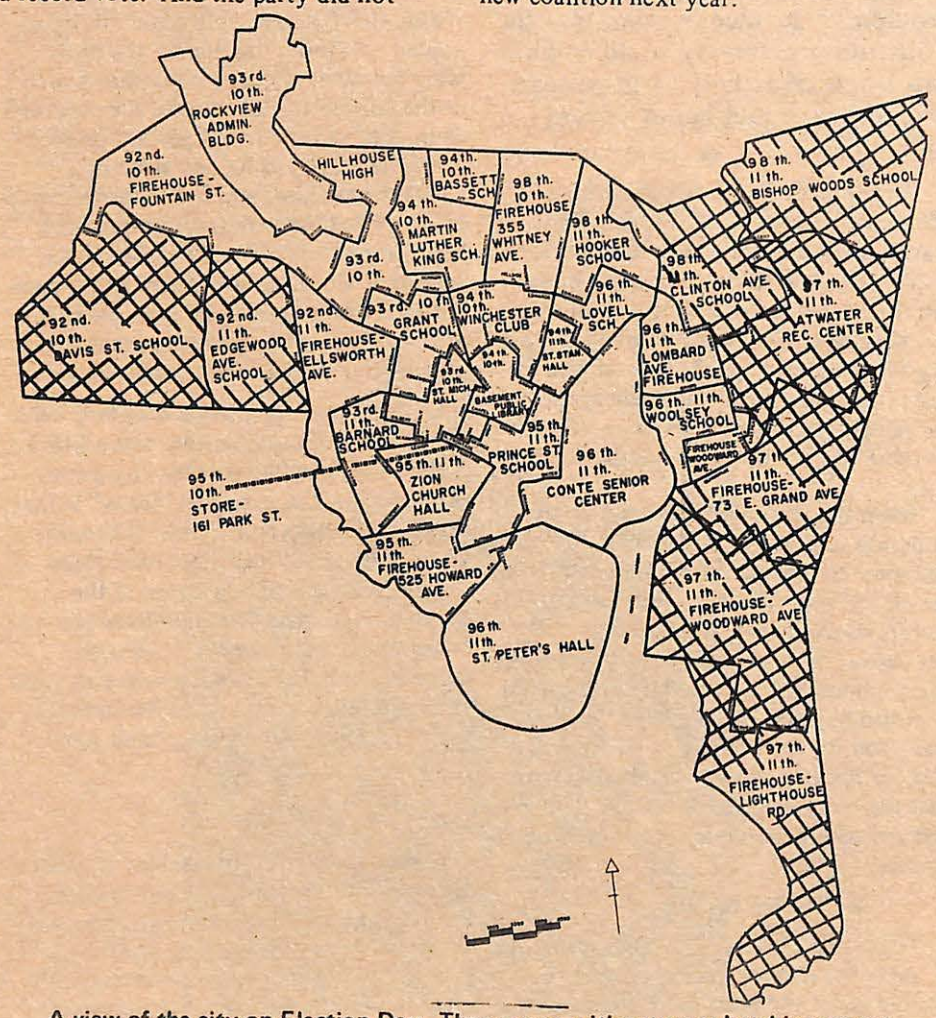
City Split

The real splitting on election day occurred in the voting booth and between parts of the city. (See the Map attached) Why did the Eastern half of the city, including Ward 14, Arthur Barbieri's home ward, pull the Republic lever? Is it true that the Democratic Party could not control the vote? Was George McGovern so repulsive to the Democratic voters? It is extremely disheartening that the lower middle-income generally white working population of the eastern parts of the city voted so clearly against their own interests.

It is clear that the Reform and Black wards held together for the Democratic Party and for McGovern. Those wards had not delivered many absentee ballots. Rumors flew that those wards were not working and were in disfavor. And yet, the vote was strong and clear straight Democratic. *It looks like there was a* greater fear of what four more years of Nixon would mean, in those wards and/ or the current Black and Reform Democratic Party leaders are more active and in touch with their people.

In the eastern half, the local party leaders are, in general, older and tired. They are still close to many of their people and serve them well. But they haven't been growing and building and the base is no longer strong in the face of real opposition. The vote on Tuesday was a record vote. And the party did not *control that other 30-35% that came to* vote that day--and that made all the difference. They could not deliver the votes and Arthur Barbieri, who courageously and wisely came out for McGovern so early in the game, would not use or could not succeed in using his influence.

The interesting race to watch in the future will be next year, for New Haven's mayor. Will it be possible to find a mayoral candidate acceptable to the conservative east and the liberal-Black coalition? Perhaps we really will see a new coalition next year.


93rd. 10th. ROCKVIEW ADMIN. BLDG.
92nd. 10th. FIREHOUSE - FOUNTAIN ST.
HILLHOUSE HIGH
94th. 10th. BASSETT SCH.
98th. 10th. FIREHOUSE 355 WHITNEY AVE.
98th. 11th. HOOKER SCHOOL
98th. 11th. BISHOP WOODS SCHOOL
94th. 10th. MARTIN LUTHER KING SCH.
93rd. 10th.
92nd. 10th. DAVIS ST. SCHOOL
92nd. 11th. EDGEWOOD AVE. SCHOOL
92nd. 11th. FIREHOUSE - HELLSWORTH AVE.
93rd. 10th. GRANT SCHOOL
94th. 10th. WINCHESTER CLUB
96th. 11th. LOVELL SCH.
98th. 11th. CLINTON AVE. SCHOOL
97th. 11th. ATWATER REC. CENTER
96th. 11th. LOMBARD AVE. FIREHOUSE
96th. 11th. WOOLSEY SCHOOL
93rd. 11th. BARNARD SCHOOL
95th. 10th. STORE - 161 PARK ST.
95th. 11th. ZION CHURCH HALL
PRINCE ST. SCHOOL
96th. 11th. CONTE SENIOR CENTER
97th. 11th. FIREHOUSE - 73 E. GRAND AVE
95th. 11th. FIREHOUSE - 525 HOWARD AVE.
96th. 11th. ST. PETER'S HALL
97th. 11th. FIREHOUSE - WOODWARD AVE
97th. 11th. FIREHOUSE - LIGHTHOUSE RD.

A view of the city on Election Day. Those areas without cross-hatchings voted Democratic, those with cross-hatching voted Republican. George McGovern won in New Haven, outdistancing Nixon by approximately 5,000 votes.

EAST SIDE ROUND UP

City Plays Street Games–Haven St. Loses

by Frank R. Annunziato
Modern Times Staff

A couple of Saturday mornings back, the Redevelopment Agency held a big celebration on Haven St.

All the big wigs were there: Mayor Guida, Congressman Giaimo, local aldermen, etc. They all gathered together to celebrate the demolition of the first hous in the 30 million dollar plus Fair Haven "Renewal" plan.

For the big occasion, a big grandstand was erected in a vacant lot. People from all over the city were there. Interestingly enough, however, very few residents of Haven Street received an invite.

Speaker after speaker praised the fact that soon this lovely house would be destroyed and the beginnings of a "new" Fair Haven were in the works. All of this was quite strange for the Haven Street residents who had no idea what was going on. They also wondered who these strangers in the neighborhood were, with their grandstands and flags and fancy speeches.

Citizen Participation

The whole day must have cost a pretty penny of taxpayers' money–and it seems pretty low to me that very few people from Haven Street were even aware of what was going on, let alone invited. Maybe, that's what the Renewal Agency means by citizen participation?

Haven Street. The crane in the distance marks the spot of recent demolitions -- celebrated by the New Haven Redevelopment Agency. (M-T photo by Nick Heyer)

Haven St. is one of the most rundown streets in Fair Haven. Years ago, the street was predominantly Italo-American. Over time, it has become black. People were always reluctant to invest money in renewing their homes because of rumors that the Renewal Agency was planning to tear down the whole block. This never happened.

Haven Street is also the street where pollution is, and always has been, the biggest problem. Bordering right on the Mill River, residents have to suffer through some of the most foul-smelling odors you could find. Just imagine a helicopter dropping millions of rotten eggs on your front sidewalk and that would be close to, but not quite, the stink level.

Add to this, the English Station of the United Illuminating Co. which is literally a stone's throw from Haven St. Night and day, this "public" utility throws out tons of soot and gases over the street. When you wash your car on Haven Street, chances are 2 to 1 that in several hours your car car will be filthy again.

Dangerous

Day by day, trucks from the Batter Lumber company drag race down the street, making it exceedingly dangerous for kids and pets. You could not count the number of dogs that have been clipped--but everyone on the street remembers times when little kids were hurt.

There are many vacant houses on the street. Houses whose owners have long ago left. These people are in a bind; they can't afford to renovate these places and no one is interested in buying them--except for a steal. Often times, former Haven St. residents have bought homes in another part of town or are paying big rents in a "better" neighborhood. Caught solidly in the current economic squeeze, they can't do anything with these houses. So they remain--rundown and empty.

I'm willing to bet that at one time, hundreds of families all over the city of New Haven lived on, or nearby, Haven Street. I can remember many of them myself: Cerino, Coppola, Discepola, Bimonte, Nuzzo, Rignoli, Stuckey, Streeter, Mozell, Johnson, Wachter. There is a lot of people's history on that street. Whenever you run across a member from one of those families the stories about the old days can last for hours.

But today, the street is dying from millions of problems of 1972 America and just three Saturdays ago the Renewal Agency celebrated the demolition of a house – *that's the "New" Fair Haven.*

The Coliseum That Couldn't Cost Less

by David Dickson
Modern Times Staff

The New Haven Coliseum opened with a great deal of fanfare, and certainly many of us have noticed the crowds of people rushing around in usually late night quiet of New Haven. Wouldn't it be nice to think that the Coliseum controversy could end in this bustle of activity. Unfortunately, there are a number of unpaid bills.

In the mid 60's, Dick Lee envisioned the Coliseum to replace the aging New Haven Arena and act as a focal point for downtown New Haven. He called in Kevin Roche, who at that time was imposing the Knights of Columbus Building and Lee High School upon the skylines of New Haven (and is now facing huge damage suits for faulty design and slipshod construction of these two buildings) to design the structure.

When the first public hearings on the Coliseum took place in July, 1968, Roche was there to present the building in every detail, including drive-up windows so commuters would be able to get tickets without leaving their cars. The price tag was $19.5 million dollars including $2.3 million for financing tax-free municipal bonds-a real boon for the wealthy. The estimated cost for the city was set at $150,000 per year tor 15 years or $2.2 million. The remainder of the money was to come from proceeds.

A Card Up His Sleeve

The Board of Aldermen, already weary of the entire redevelopment program and worried about the great financing burden facing the city, was bitterly divided over the issue. But Dick Lee had another card up his sleeve beside a fully designed proposal. A secret arrangement with Macy's bound the city to provide 1500 additional parking places for the Mall and the Coliseum's parking lot would satisfy this obligation. This tipped the balance in Lee's favor and in '68 the Coliseum was approved but with a $19.5 million ceiling.

When the bids were taken, none came within this figure so they could not be accepted. To jump this hurdle, the plans were redrawn, omitting many things such as the convention hall, one of the supposed sources of income to pay for this project, as well as essentials for any structure, chairs, scoreboards and maintainence equipment. New bids were taken and the Gilbane Company's bid of $18 million was accepted. Construction started in the summer of 1969, and one year later the cost of the Coliseum was raised up again to $23 million, but without the convention hall.

A Coliseum information secretary talks of the irony of the situation, that a $19.5 million dollar ceiling cost the city a convention hall. The supposed "irony" is that the Coliseum was built at all. "Everyone knew," she said, "that the second plans were incomplete. The concern of the Board of Alderman was considered just another hurdle to be jumped at all costs." Some $250,000 of the additional cost went to the architect for replacing the items he earlier removed, bringing the total architect's fees to $1.25 million.

Mistakes

Besides these under the table "mistakes", there are a number of "normal" mistakes in the Coliseum. The largest standing wall in the Coliseum needs a hole punched in it to allow people to enter its much publicized restaurant directly from the street. This bill may be $10,000. As for the parking lot, the top level seems to flood in the rain so it is not yet open.

The Coliseum Authority anticipated paying off $1.36 million in 1972 by means of a $680,000 subsidy from the city, $580,000 revenue from the parking garage and $102,000 revenue from the Coliseum itself. However, the Coliseum only started operating a month ago and the garage is only averaging a few hundred cars a day so the city subsidy will no doubt be a good deal larger. In the '72-'73 New Haven budget, there is a $670,000 debt payment to the Coliseum Authority but only at the end of the year will we know the whole story.

So fans, as you enjoy the hockey game, think about New Haven's soaring tax rate and remember that the second biggest item in the budget is debt payment and the Coliseum debt is one of the biggest. And look around you at your fellow fans. If they don't live in New Haven, the game only costs them the price of the ticket. The Nighthawks are not the only losers in the city.

Redevelopment

continued from page 2

game called "Statistics" or "Fill-in-the-blank-with-the-number-that-makes-us-look-good."

Another instance of the numbers game: the Report proudly claims that 2,535 new housing units are "in progress" (in the Annual Report game "in progress" usually means projects being planned, not actually being built). The Report does not make it clear that of these housing units only 465 will be available to low income people, i.e. the elderly. Even worse, the Report neglects to point out that not one of these housing units will be available to low income families - who unfortunately make up the bulk of the 9,000 families that the Report admits have been displaced by the Agency's programs.

If the working people of New Haven haven't fared well in all this, New Haven's banks and large corporations have. The back cover of the Report is devoted to an expensively printed colored rendering of the new $10 million New Haven Savings Bank building. A section of the Report describes how the Coliseum will benefit the owners of the city's hotels, restaurants, retail stores and nightclubs, and of course, the automotive industry. Another section describes a new $4 million building for the Connecticut Savings Bank and the Southern Connecticut Gas Co. In fact, most of the Report demonstrates how the Redevelopment Agency caters to the interests of big business. The president of the New Haven Chamber of Commerce says straight out that the Agency has developed "the best working relationship between a city merchant community that I've ever seen."

The Report explains: "After the Agency acquires sites for redevelopment it begins the process of preparing the land for re-sale to *private redevelopers*...Once we (the agency) get word on what a parcel's uses will be, we have to keep thinking what *corporations* might best utilize the area" (emphasis added). As one business executive is quoted as saying, "the Redevelopment Agency treated us magnificently." Who among us can say the same thing?

ON FILM

Some Baaad Movies To See

by Peter O'Connell
Modern Times Staff

What's playing at the movies?

Well, there are Westerns. There are always Westerns, right? Like **Return of Sabata**, for example. But there haven't always been Westerns like **Return of Sabata**. **Return of Sabata** is a Western European Western, not the kind we used to have before John Wayne started riding shotgun with Tricky Dick and Spiro Nagyou. **Return of Sabata** and the herd of others like it are made by Italian directors in Spain with international casts and the Spanish Army (temporarily underemployed pending the next civil war) as extras. Somehow it's not the same as John Ford in Monument Valley or even Gene Autry on a Hollywood backlot. There's more opera than horse in these Common Market eaters, and more blood than oats. Only a horse's ass could love them the way we used to love our Saturday afternoon specials.

Baadasssssss Movies

Well, if the cowboys and Indians have all become Italians and Spaniards, what about the cops and robbers? Cops and robbers movies used to have all-white and black and white morality. Now the casts have become black-and-white and the morality grey. Or at least it seems so. It's hard to tell the colors through all the blood that's spattered on the screen in flicks like **Superfly**, **Melinda** and **Slaughter**. Movies like these mark the debut en masse of blacks on the silver screen after decades of exclusion by racist filmmakers, producers, unions, distributors and exhibitors. Generally, the "black interest films" involve detectives and criminals (although blacks sometimes wander west to Spain and become part of the cowboys and Indians). Sometimes the blacks are detectives (**Slaughter**), sometimes criminals (**Superfly**), sometimes both (**Melinda**). But whatever the role, the black is usually very sexed-up, very violent and not very bright.

Just like Governor Wallace says.

The Italians get into the act in these movies too. They may not be as "baad" as the black stars, but they're usually the biggest of the baddies (just like the FBI says) and get all shot up into tomato paste by the blacks before the movies are over.

Black people in this country have always gotten the used up things--scraps from massa's table, old clothes, worn-out land, dead-end jobs, bad schools, decaying housing. To this list of discards, Hollywood has now added something new--used up movie types (detective stories) and used up prejudices (anti-Italianism).

Males and Murder

For those of you who may like murder mysteries but may not like blaxpoitation flix, you can see, **Frenzy**, **Bluebeard**, or **Play Misty for Me**. Here we have films that don't do harm to any minority group, just to a majority group--women. **Frenzy** and **Bluebeard** are how to do it films and what they show you how to do in loving detail is to rape and murder women.

None of your shoot-the-bitch-in-the-belly stuff that the Westerns and the blax pix go in for. Here we have real style. In **Frenzy** director Alfred Hitchcock provides us with a beautiful full-color closeup of a woman being strangled. You can see her eyes bug out and blue tongue loll. For his long career of films in this vein, Mr. Hitchcock has been dubbed a "Pantheon director" by critics.

In **Bluebeard** Richard Burton ever - so-elegantly shoots, stabs and strangles a half-dozen or so women. Unfortunately, co-star Joey Heatherton escapes unharmed.

Director Edward Dymtryk has never been dubbed anything by anybody, except once by the House Un-American Activities Committee, "communist sympathizer." Maybe there's some truth to the rumor since **Blue Beard** was filmed in Hungary. Dymtryk should have been shot there instead by Bluebeard, Blackbeard, Redbeard, or anyone else who could get hold of a gun.

For variety in your murders, you can see **Play Misty for Me** in which a female sex maniac cuts up a man with scissors. (The man is Clint Eastwood, veteran of the first wave of Italian-made Westerns).

Luv Stories

But enough of this violence. What about the love stories? There must be loads of them around, right? What else could movies like **Art of Marriage**, **Love After Death**, **Together**, **The Love Machine**, **Marital Aids**, and others like them that are spreading like, well, cancer, be all about? The Lincoln, a New Haven art theater operated by prominent liberal Mr. Robert Spodick recently played for weeks **Deep Throat** , a "film of adult candor about how a young girl progresses in love."

The young lady featured (who did not appear to be either black or Italian) had misplaced her clitoris to her throat, whence numerous young (and not so young) swains conducted fishing expeditions in search of it with a selected portion of their respective anatomies. Her newly-acquired taste in lovemaking cured the hard-up young woman of her affliction. The film was done in color and close-up and makes you wish that Alfred Hitchcock would come for the young lady.

What's playing at the movies? Tennis anyone?

Review

Indians Lost As West Won

Chief Standing Bear of the Poncas.

adapted from a book review by
by Douglas Wagner
Labor Today (July-August)

Why should a paper like **Modern Times** review a book about the American Indian? What has this book got to do with rank and file struggle today? Dee Brown's book deals with the last part of the 1800's. The time when the labor movement in this country was struggling to lift its head out of the sea of sweat shops and slave wages.

In the same month that working men in Chicago were being killed over the fight for the eight hour day, May, 1886, their Red brothers, the Chiricahuas, led by the great leader Geronimo (24 ill-clad and poorly armed Indians) were being surrounded by 5,000 soldiers. One third of the combat strength of the U.S. Army intended to exterminate them. Yotanka (Sitting Bull), who a year before defeated Custer at the Little Big Horn, tired of a war his nation did not want. He saw no hope of keeping his people's beloved Black Hills and fled to Canada.

These same forces systematically robbed and cheated the Indians of their land, raped and killed their women and children and obliterated their buffalo herds. Then forced them to live on reservations, where the barren land and harsh climate exterminated the last few. The land-grabbing banks, railroad monopolies, mining interests, were at the same time importing slave laborers from China. Blacks were lynched, Reconstruction almost destroyed in the South, and any attempt of workers to organize in the North was smashed.

Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee is one one of the first books of mass readership to appear on the Indian's behalf. It has direct quotes from many of the Indian leaders of the time. There is a large section of photos, songs and a chronology of events with each chapter. After reading this book you are forced to think twice about the slangs etched into our society--"running around like an Indian", "Indian giver," etc.--and about the many western movie images of the American Indian.

Indian Interest

The American Indians were the First Ecologists. They could not understand the strange ways of the white men. They stole their land and left it a barren land by lumbering and killing over 3,700,000 buffalo (1872-74). The meat was to rot in the sun while letting the Indians die of starvation. This treatment was initiated by General Sheridan who said, "The only good Indians I ever saw were dead." He practiced what he preached.

The last words of this history lesson come from an anonymous Indian: "They made us many promises, more than I can remember, but they never kept but one, they promised to take our land, and they took it."

Open Line

MOMS Map New Moves

by Lynne V. Hopson
N.H. Coalition for Peace and Justice

This article is written by a woman who heard about the Welfare Moms through their vigil and has worked with them closely ever since.

Over? It's not!!! Oct. 19,1972 it snowed! And the joyful yet painful decision to leave the green was made. The promise to stay camped on the green until either the 'flat grant' family assistance policy was changed or the snow flew was fulfilled. Even though snow in October is a freak, it happened and Matilda Gibbs decided, we were being told, we had been cold long enough.

We feel a lot of good things happened on the green. We didn't change the system but we sent out ripples and received a great deal of support and love. Many people were educated about welfare, myself included. A number of individuals and groups rallied around the Moms. When we left we had mixed emotions. There was an emptiness and yet fullness. It was the end of a unique experience but we knew it was just the beginning of a long hard struggle. A lot of work needs to be done.

The Welfare Moms have a couple of tactics in sight. A bill was brought to Hartford when we had our recent rally. We had hoped it could be introduced during the special session. That possibility is very doubtful. We will have to wait until the regular session in January. However, after Tuesday's elections, Ms. Gibbs feels the bill hasn't a prayer. The bill states, if the cost of a recipient's rent and utilities exceeds 25% of her monthly allotment, the balance over 25% would be supplemented.

Boycott of Stores

The other tactic, which is in the planning stages, is a boycott of grocery stores. The purpose is twofold. One, to show the local businessmen the 'flat grant' lack of money will effect them: no funds, no purchases. If stores aren't patronized the effect is obvious. Secondly, the Welfare Moms and supporters feel there are stores that raise prices on the 1st and the 16th of the month. They also want to take business away from the stores that have sales during the second and fourth weeks when recipients have little money.

They also feel they are overcharged many times for inferior products, especially meats. A child needs certain daily requirements to function and grow whether he on welfare or not. The MOMS hope to find a grocery store or coop in each community that will be willing to work with them by cutting some prices and dealing with larger volumes.

A boycott is a difficult undertaking. We had hopes of kicking it off in time for Thanksgiving. But a lot of planning and preparation still needs to be done. When we are ready to go we hope all the beautiful people who have supported the Moms in past fights will help by participating in the boycott.

The Moms are, as always, in the process of educating people about welfare, which is essential. Since the green they have been invited to several panels and workshops which have been reasonably successful. They need to be heard.

Juanita, wife of Manuelito, as a member of the Navaho delegation to Washington in 1874. Photos from the book "Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee".

On The Job Unemployment Unfair Employer

This is the first in a two-part story about unemployment. The writer is a woman who at one time worked at a branch of the Connecticut State Employment Service, in the Unemployment Compensation Division.

I've seen unemployment from both sides, as a worker in an unemployment office and as a person out of work. So I know what goes on. And the truth is the unemployed don't usually get just treatment. They're under constant suspicion. They are not fully informed of their rights under unemployment, and they're often denied benefits for illegitimate reasons.

I can give many examples of the unfairness and harassment the unemployed experience, but let me start with the case that is closest to my ulcer.

About seven months ago I applied for a position at the New Haven branch of the Connecticut State Employment Service. I was interviewed by the Manager of Employment. She told me the hours were 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday and that I would be trained in the different departments of the Employment Service. I took the job for just that reason. I couldn't take a job just sitting and typing all day.

My first working day at the Employment Service, I found out the manager had lied to me. All full-time employees were forced to stay to 5:30 p.m. and to be available to come in every fourth Saturday. (But in the five weeks I was there, the same people worked three Saturdays in a row). In addition, the work assigned me was exactly what I had tried to avoid. . .typing.

I questioned the manager about why the job had been misrepresented. She offered no explanation but said I could lose my job unless I stayed the extra time. I tried to see her again, but was told she had gone to the hospital and would not be back for weeks.

The office itself was a tense and uncomfortable place to work in. The manager ran the place like a petty dictator. Most of the workers there disliked her but were too afraid to say anything. Eventually the tensions and conflicts of my job began to affect me physically and emotionally. Under doctor's orders, I was advised to resign. So I gave my two and a half weeks' notice.

I knew I would have to go on unemployment and expected I would get a double dose of harassment. First I would get the usual suspicious treatment all applicants for unemployment were getting. And then I knew my manager would try to use her influence to penalize or disqualify me.

When I applied, though, things seemed to go surprisingly well. I had a fairly good interview with the unemployment fact-finder. I told him I had left the job because the manager had originally misrepresented it to me and because of health problems. I showed him a note from my doctor backing up what I said about my health. He wrote up an accurate report and I thought for a while my expectations of harassment were unjustified.

However, the weeks passed and the Employment Service still made no decision about my case. Finally, after six weeks, I was told I had been penalized for the first five weeks because my employer (the manager) claimed I had resigned without suitable reasons. I filed an appeal on that immediately. Then I asked for my first check since the penalization period was over.

I was told I wouldn't be getting anything. They still "hadn't come to a decision on my case". There I was with no money at all, and little hope of ever getting any unemployment benefits. At this point, someone told me about Legal Aid. I contacted them and they agreed to take my case. After several days our efforts were partially successful. Unemployment Commissioner Hatcher was contacted and after he made an investigation, he ordered that I receive full benefits starting from the fifth week and that I be given my checks at some other Employment Service branch. To me this was an obvious admission that I had been treated unfairly.

Nevertheless, when my Fair Hearing came up about my five weeks penalization, I was turned down. Several workers from the office who could back up my story came to the hearing as my witnesses. But before the hearing started I overheard my ex-manager telling them to testify that they weren't able to remember anything. I started to tell my lawyer to listen in but my ex-manager heard me and changed the subject in mid-sentence. Sure enough when the hearing started *my* witnesses couldn't remember a thing.

According to the rules of a Fair Hearing, if there is any reasonable doubt, the Commissioner should call another hearing or rule in favor of the claimant. All during my hearing I made detailed charges listing names, dates, and facts. My ex-manager's answers were always, "I don't know, I don't remember." Certainly the Fair Hearings Commissioner should have had some doubts as to whether I had been fairly treated.

But it was no surprise to me that a month later I was told the decision was against me. That's unemployment for you. What was infuriating, though, was that the Commissioner who listened to my appeal did not even bother to respond to any of my arguments. His letter could have been written by my ex-manager herself.

I'm now at another job and have put those bad experiences behind me. But think about this. I was someone who knew how the unemployment office worked and who knew about Legal Aid. And still I almost lost all benefits. Can you imagine what happens to the average person who doesn't have any idea at all of how to fight the red tape?

State Inspectors Don't Bother To Inspect Jobs

A good many workers hardly have the opportunity to "keep out of harm's way." Safety devices and the strict enforcement of rules designed for safety and health are rights all working people should have without question, not options dependent on the whims and good nature of the employer. Photo taken from the March, 1972 issue of "Health Rights News."

Continued from page 3

loses only a few man-hours, and perhaps suffers an increase in insurance costs. Only when penalties make the cost of unhealthy and unsafe practices prohibitive do employers respond.

The health department's professional inspectors, the Industrial Hygienists, do not actively seek out violations. Inspections wait until an invitation or complaint is received.

These professionals seldom apply their professional skills. Though there are nationally published standards on safe levels of industrial pollutants--noise, gas, dust, etc.--IH inspectors seldom refer to these standards nor do they take precise measurement of levels of these pollutants. They simply "use their own judgment," as one Health Department employee told me.

The neglect of the IH inspectors is especially tragic. Safety hazards can usually be seen by the untrained eye. Health hazards, on the other hand, can often be spotted by the trained professional. As one worker said, "Any fool knows that a crane going directly overhead is dangerous. . .but all of these chemicals. . .who knows what they can do."

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